

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John R. Batiste



Captain Jeff DeVere
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

*****For Immediate Release*****

Date: September 7, 2006
Contact: Trooper Mike Kesler
(360) 449-7960 Office
(360) 906-2405 Pager
mike.kesler@wsp.wa.gov

One Teen Driver Arrested in I-205 Roll Over Collision - **UPDATE**

Paul B. Penager, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver, was driving 1997 Honda Accord on September 3, 2006 at approximately 2:45 am, northbound I-205 just north of Burton Road (Milepost 29). Penager lost control of the Honda leaving the roadway traveling up an embankment then rolling.

The investigation conducted by WSP troopers and detectives has revealed Penager along with two other cars were driving at a high rate of speed on northbound I-205. All three cars had just left a private home in Washougal where a juvenile party with alcohol was present. Penager reportedly approached a slower vehicle in the center lane then veered to the right, losing control and leaving the road to the right where it traveled up an embankment. The Honda rolled over as it traveled back down the embankment ejecting Jennifer D. Prom, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver, who was a passenger in the rear seat. Jennifer Prom came to rest lying in the roadway. She sustained critical head and internal injuries in the collision and was transported by AMR to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in Portland, Oregon. Jennifer Prom remains in critical condition with a massive head injury at the hospital.

The Honda sustained massive damage coming to rest on its wheel facing east on the right shoulder.

Witness accounts indicate that at least one of the other cars stopped and a passenger rendered first aid to Jennifer Prom. When emergency vehicle arrived the third car fled the scene.

Penager left the scene on foot prior to emergency personnel arriving. He was later contacted by Trooper Greg Riddell at SWWMC after being transported by his parents to be examined for minor head injury he sustained in the collision. Trooper Riddell determined Mr. Penager had not been drinking and was not able to give a statement at the time due to confusion from the head injury.

The second passenger in the rear seat of Penager's car identified as Tyler W. Lawhead, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver, was contacted at the scene, but left the scene on foot prior to giving a statement. Mr. Lawhead was later contacted at his residence by Vancouver Police and AMR. He was transported by AMR to SWWMC to be examined for minor lacerations and head injuries he sustained in the collision. Tyler Lawhead was treated and release from the hospital.

The third passenger sitting in the right front seat was identified as Hannah K. Doyle, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver. She sustained facial lacerations, head and internal injuries in the collision and was transported by AMR to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in Portland, Oregon. Doyle remains in critical condition at Legacy Emanuel.

The fourth passenger sitting in the left rear seat was identified as Lena Hoffman, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver. She sustained head and internal injuries in the collision and was transported by AMR to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in Portland, Oregon. Lena Hoffman has since been released from the hospital.

The fifth passenger sitting in the center rear seat was identified as Krystal R. Swennes, an 18 year old resident of Vancouver. She sustained neck and back injuries in the collision and was transported by AMR to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center in Portland, Oregon. Krystal Swennes remains in stable condition at the hospital.

On September 3, 2006 after Paul Penager was treated for his injuries and released and he was taken into custody by the WSP. He was booked into the Clark County Jail for three counts of Vehicular Assault, two counts of Reckless Endangerment and Felony Hit and Run.

On September 5, 2006, Paul Penager posted bail and was released from the Clark County Jail.

On September 6, 2006, Paul Penager was arraigned on the charges awaiting the conclusion of the investigation.

Detective Jody Metz is seeking assistance from witnesses having information reference the events leading up to the collision. Witness can call Detective Metz at (360) 449-7944.

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